

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 028337

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS:PFO, PO, EEC

SUBJECT:CONSULTATION ON PORTUGAL

REF: (A) STATE 22603 AND 23905

- (B) LISBON 561 AND 688

- (C) STATE 276188 (1974)

- (D) COPENHAGEN 310

1. DEPARTMENT HAS APPRECIATED PROMPT REPLIES FROM ALL EUR
CAPITALS TO STATE 22603. FOLLOWING IS IN RESPONSE TO

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QUESTIONS RAISED BY EMBASSY COPENHAGEN.

2. REFTELS B OUTLINE THRUST OF CURRENT AND PROJECTED US ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGAL. THOUGH THIS MATERIAL IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE, IT REPRESENTS THE BEST PRESENT OVERVIEW OF US AID PROGRAM.

3. THE POINT ON US-EC COOPERATION IN BEHALF OF PORTUGAL IS WELL-TAKEN. THOUGH WHATEVER THE COMMUNITY DECIDES TO DO FOR PORTUGAL IS CLEARLY A MATTER FOR EC CHOICE OR THAT OF THE EC MEMBER STATES, THE COMMUNITY AND US HAVE CONFERRED ON THE PORTUGUESE SITUATION AND AGREE ON A NEED TO PROTECT FLEDGLING DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN PORTUGAL. AID TO LISBON WAS AGENDA ITEM DURING THE DECEMBER 1974 SEMI-ANNUAL US-EC CONSULTATIONS, HELD IN WASHINGTON. AT THAT TIME, WE STRESSED THE VALUE US ATTACHES TO GESTURES OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SUPPORT TO PORTUGAL, PARTICULARLY IN THE POTEN-

TIALLY CRITICAL PERIOD BEFORE THE SPRING CONSTITUENT ELECTIONS. EC VICE PRESIDENT CHRISTOPHER SOAMES, HEAD OF THE EC DELEGATION DURING THOSE TALKS, CONCURRED AND INDICATED THAT SAID SENTIMENT MOTIVATED HIS PLANNED VISIT TO PORTUGAL. AS YOU KNOW, SIR CHRISTOPHER IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT LISBON, FEBRUARY 12-13. THOUGH HE IS NOT EXPECTED TO RESPOND DIRECTLY TO PORTUGUESE REQUESTS (SEE PARAGRAPH 2 OF REFTEL C), HE WILL SEEK APPOINTMENTS WITH TOP PORTUGUESE LEADERS AND GOOD PRESS-MEDIA COVERAGE FOR EC INTEREST IN PORTUGAL. VALUABLE AS WE CONSIDER SOAMES VISIT, WE CONTINUE TO URGE THE COMMUNITY IN OUR ONGOING CONSULTATIONS TO MOVE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE ON ITEMS LIKE EXPANDED ACCESS FOR PORTUGUESE EXPORTS AND EMPLOYMENT FOR PORTUGUESE WORKERS SO THAT DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN LISBON SENSE SUPPORT AT CRITICAL JUNCTURE.

4. FOR YOUR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, US SUPPORT TO PORTUGAL IS NOT LIMITED TO OUR OWN BILATERAL PROGRAM OR CONSULTATION WITH THE EC. WE SUPPORT ASSISTANCE FROM A VARIETY OF MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS -- MOST NOTABLY, THE OECD, IMF, AND WORLD BANK. OECD SECRETARY-GENERAL VAN LENNEP SUGGESTED IN MID-DECEMBER 1974 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC WORKING PARTY TO COORDINATE ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL
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WITHIN THE OECD FRAMEWORK ON A CONTINUING BASIS. HE IS STILL AWAITING PORTUGUESE RESPONSE. THE OECD HAS ALREADY DISPATCHED SEVERAL SHORT-TERM GENERAL ECONOMIC MISSIONS TO PORTUGAL, MOST RECENTLY IN JANUARY UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION SERVICE. THE IMF SENT A MISSION IN LATE NOVEMBER-EARLY DECEMBER 1974 AND IS PREPARED TO KEEP IN CONTINUING CONTACT WITH LISBON AND PROVIDE SUPPORT (PRIMARILY POLICY GUIDANCE AND STATISTICAL DATA) IF RE-

QUESTED BY THE PORTUGUESE. IN JANUARY THE IBRD SENT OUT A TEAM TO PORTUGAL AND THE PORTUGUESE AFRICAN TERRITORIES. THE CONSENSUS OF MOST OF THE MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS IS THAT THEY WANT TO HELP PORTUGAL BUT FEEL SOMEWHAT FRUSTRATED IN KNOWING WHAT THE PORTUGUESE NEED OR WANT. POLITICAL UNCERTAINTY IN LISBON AND BUREAUCRATIC DISARRAY IN LISBON APPEAR TO HAVE DELAYED EXPECTED FEEDBACK.

5. FOR THE PURPOSE OF YOUR FURTHER CONTACTS WITH THE DANES, YOU MIGHT STRESS THE POINTS IN PARAGRAPH 3 ABOVE. FOR YOUR FEBRUARY 10 LUNCH WITH THE PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR, YOU MIGHT (1) UNDERSCORE US CONCERN IN BEHALF OF PORTUGAL AND OUR PLAN TO PRESS AHEAD IN EXPANDED AID TO PORTUGAL AND (2) EXPLORE DISCREETLY HOW THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT COULD BE NUDGED TO RESPOND TO ASSISTANCE BEING PROFFERED BY MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS. KISSINGER

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